



Draft Workplan for your Review
Kelly Shenk to: Glenn.Carpenter

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Hey Glenn,
It was great to have you over here today.
Thank you for taking the time to meet the modeling team and to discuss our workplan for this joint collaborative effort.
Here is a draft workplan to get us started.
Let me know what you think and feel free to edit extensively.
I just wanted to get something on paper for us to work with. K



EPA USDA Collaboration on Model.doc
Kelly Shenk
Agricultural Policy Coordinator
U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109
Annapolis, Maryland 21403
phone: 410-267-5728
fax: 410-267-5777

EPA/USDA Collaboration on Chesapeake Bay Modeling Efforts Workplan – Draft February 23, 2010

EPA and USDA have agreed to collaborate on Chesapeake Bay modeling efforts. Specifically, they will work together to address key questions and concerns raised by the agricultural community regarding the Phase 5 of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model and to coordinate results of both the Phase 5 modeling effort and the NRCS Chesapeake Conservation Environmental Assessment Project (CEAP) effort. The objective and workplan for this collaboration follows.

Objective: The objectives of the EPA/USDA collaboration on Chesapeake Bay modeling efforts are:

- To engage in an open dialogue on Phase 5 of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
- To discuss and respond to key questions and concerns raised by the agricultural community regarding the Phase 5 Model.
- To identify ways to improve or better inform the Phase 5 Model in the near-term and for future model updates.
- To educate the agricultural community about the Phase 5 Model and respond to questions and concerns.
- To engage in an open dialogue on the “Chesapeake CEAP” project (Conservation Environmental Assessment Project), discuss methodology, discuss preliminary and final results, and develop communications messages to explain any differences in results between the CEAP and Phase 5 modeling efforts.

Workplan:

Regarding Phase 5 of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model, NRCS and EPA will carry out the following activities over the next three months as the states develop the preliminary Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans. It is expected that this collaboration will continue well beyond this initial 3 month period. To carry out the objectives of this collaboration:

NRCS will:

- Develop a good working knowledge of the Phase 5 Model.
- Present to EPA the key concerns and questions raised about the Phase 5 Model by the agricultural community.
- Discuss ways to better inform the model, both in the near-term and for future model updates.
- Communicate to the agricultural community about the model and provide responses to the questions and issues raised.

EPA will:

- Ensure that NRCS has full access to the Phase 5 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model, documentation, and modeling team experts in order for NRCS to build a good working knowledge of the Phase 5 Model. NRCS will meet as needed with

Phase 5 modeling team to discuss the model and key questions and concerns raised by the agricultural community.

- Respond to key concerns and questions raised by the agricultural community.
- Discuss ways to improve the model, both in the near-term and for future model updates.
- Work in cooperation with NRCS to communicate responses to the key questions and concerns raised by the agricultural community.

Regarding the Chesapeake CEAP modeling effort, NRCS CEAP experts, Phase 5 Model experts, and NRCS and EPA communications staff will:

- Discuss the Chesapeake CEAP project, the methodology, expected results (using Upper Mississippi River Basin CEAP project report as an example), and communications coordination opportunities. (Week of March 22nd).
- Review preliminary results from Chesapeake CEAP, identify any discrepancies in modeling inputs/outputs between Chesapeake CEAP and the Phase 5 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model, develop communications messages to explain any differences in the models (April).
- Review final CEAP results and develop communications messages regarding the Chesapeake CEAP project results and how it compares to the Phase 5 Chesapeake Bay Watershed model results (Date TBD).